

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Referring to International Publication WO03/076762 of PCT/NO03/00077 of which this case is a 35USC371 filing, please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at publication no. WO 03/076762, page 1, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Normally, riserless drilling takes place down to the setting point for, e.g., a 20" surface casing, typically 800 m below mudline (BML). Riserless drilling in this context means that the drill string is not enclosed within a tube or riser. Since at this depth the risk of encountering a formation containing fluids and/or gas that may escape is increasing from this point, most deep water drilling systems are based on using a standard 18 3/4" wellhead, a 18 3/4" BOP and a 21" marine drilling riser. If fluids and/or gas should escape from the well bore, these will flow into the drilling riser and not pollute the seawater. The standard system is hereafter termed 18 3/4" wellhead system. Through the system, comprising the drilling riser, the BOP and the wellhead, the casings will be installed. As the second stage of the well bore normally a hole with a size to receive a 13 3/8" casing will be drilled. Then a third stage with a hole to receive a 9 5/8" casing will be drilled and subsequently a fourth stage to receive a 7" liner will be drilled. Finally a 7" tie-back string for production may be installed. Logging, coring and well testing will normally be performed in a 8 1/2" open hole section below the 9 5/8" casings.--